REMARKS

The foregoing Amendment after Final and the following remarks are submitted in response to the Final Office Action issued on June 1, 2005 in connection with the above-identified patent application, and are being filed within the three-month shortened statutory period set for a response by the Office Action.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 14, 15, 19, 20, 24, 25, 29, and 30 are pending in the present application. Claims 6-8 have been canceled. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of now-canceled claims 6 and 8, and all other independent claims have been similarly amended. Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment after Final inasmuch as the Amendment is believed to place the application in condition for allowance and should not require any further searching on the part of the Examiner. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added to the application by the Amendment.

Applicants again request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims consistent with the following remarks.

The Examiner has rejected the claims under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Yoshiura (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,720) in view of Watney (U.S. Patent No. 5,930,398). Applicants respectfully traverse the § 103(a) rejection.

Independent claim 1 recites a computer system for receiving encrypted compressed content and for producing decrypted decompressed content based on the received encrypted compressed content. In the recited system as amended, a decryption element develops a content key and decrypts the content based at least in part on the developed content key, and a decompression element included within the decryption element decompresses the content based at least in part on the content key. Notably, the decryption

element supplies the content key to the included decompression element.. Thus, and as was previously pointed out, the content key is employed to decrypt the content and also to decompress the content. In particular, the decompression element has a number of adjustable parameters and employs the content key as at least one of the adjustable parameters. More particularly, the decompression element includes a quantizer for performing a lossy quantization step, and the quantizer is de-dithered according to the content key.

Independent claim 9 recites subject matter similar to that of claim 1, albeit in the form of a computer system for encrypting and compressing. Independent claim 14 recites subject matter similar to that of claim 1, albeit in the form of a method for decrypting and decompressing. Independent claim 19 recites subject matter similar to that of claim 1, albeit in the form of a method for encrypting and compressing. Independent claim 24 recites subject matter similar to that of claim 1, albeit in the form of a computer readable medium with instructions thereon for decrypting and decompressing. Finally, independent claim 29 recites subject matter similar to that of claim 1, albeit in the form of a computer readable medium with instructions for encrypting and compressing.

Thus, and as was previously pointed out, the invention as recited in the independent claims of the present application employs a content key both to encrypt / decrypt content and to compress / decompress the content, and in particular compresses / decompresses the content by way of a quantizer performing a lossy quantization. As a result, without the content key, neither such encryption / decryption nor such compression / decompression may be performed. In addition, the recited invention requires that the compression / decompression element be included within the encryption / decryption

element, and that the encryption / decryption element supply the content key to the included compression / decompression element.

Thus, the present invention essentially requires that encryption / decryption and compression / decompression be performed in a unitary manner such that both are based at least in part on the content key. Accordingly, compressed content is essentially gibberish to a content thief unless such content thief has the content key (KD) to be employed during decompression of such compressed content.

As was previously noted, the Yoshiura reference discloses a system that both encrypts / decrypts content and compresses / decompresses the content based on a work key 116 (Fig. 1). However, and as the Examiner concedes, the Yoshiura compression / decompression is not based on a quantizer performing a lossy quantization, as is required by the claims of the present application. Nevertheless, the Examiner continues by pointing to the Watney reference as disclosing such a quantizer, and then concludes based on the combination of the Yoshiura and Watney references that the claims of the present application are obvious.

However, Applicants respectfully point out that the Yoshiura reference does not teach that the compression / decompression element thereof be included within the encryption / decryption element, and that the encryption / decryption element develop and supply the content key to the included compression / decompression element, all as is recited in the claims of the present application. As may be appreciated, by having separate compression / decompression and encryption / decryption elements, the Yoshiura system must instead somehow develop the work key thereof externally and then transmit such work key to both elements. In contrast, in the context of the present invention, the content key is

developed within the encryption / decryption element and is supplied therefrom to the compression / decompression element located therein. Thus, such content key is not likewise external and thus is not available to a potential content thief.

In addition, Applicants respectfully point out that although the Watney reference discloses compressing / decompressing content based on a quantizer performing a lossy quantization, placing such a quantizer in the Yoshiura system would still not provide same with a quantizer that is de-dithered according to the content key. In particular, if as the Examiner concedes, the Yoshiura compression / decompression is not based on a quantizer performing a lossy quantization, such Yoshiura system cannot likewise be said to disclose any such quantizer that is de-dithered according to the content key. Thus, such a de-dithered quantizer must be shown elsewhere. However, and as the Examiner has taken pains to point out, the Watney reference is cited to show the quantizer only and not the de-dithering. Thus, the inclusion of the Watney quantizer in the Yoshiura system still does not supply such Yoshiura system with such quantizer that is de-dithered according to the content key.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the Yoshiura and Watney references cannot be combined to make obvious the subject matter recited in the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 103(a) rejection.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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